



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0308

On 15/03/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under your FOI provision, I wish to make a request in relation to the following areas.

1. Please can you advise how many times your force has actively sought the help of medium(s) / psychic(s) to assist with investigations in relation to murder, missing person(s) or any other crime during the past

- 5 years
- 10 years

2. Please can you advise the number of medium(s) / psychic(s) that have contacted your force claiming they have information which may assist with your investigations in relation to murder, missing person(s) or any other crime during the past

- 5 years
- 10 years

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary may hold some relevant information.

Unfortunately there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches. The Constabulary does not compile any separate records relating to Mediums or Psychics, therefore the only way to determine if any Mediums, Psychics or Clairvoyants have contacted Gloucestershire Constabulary would be to manually review all incident reports. As we record approximately 500 reports per day, to manually review reports for 5 and 10 years would take much longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Gloucestershire Constabulary, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states the fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

In relation to your request Section 12 applies.

Section 12(1)– Fee Regulations states:

Section 1(1) of the Act does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. (As detailed in the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Fees Regulations of 2004)

The appropriate limit at the moment is £450 calculated at an hourly rate of £25 per hour for all staff time incurred in:

- i. Determining whether information is held
- ii. Locating it
- iii. Retrieving it
- iv. Extracting the information to be disclosed from the other information.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for your request.

Under Section 16 of the Act, unfortunately I'm unable to provide any advice for how you could refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12. Even if we apply a keyword search, due to the common use of the word "medium" it is unlikely to reduce the number of crimes enough to make a manual review possible.

By way of further assistance, and although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, I have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already been retrieved. I trust this is helpful but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request;

Q1 – No information held

Gloucestershire Constabulary does not actively seek assistance from Mediums, Psychics or Clairvoyants.

If you are not satisfied with this response or any actions taken in dealing with your request, you have the right to ask that we review your case under our internal procedure. Please note that a request for an internal review must be made within 20 working days of the response to your original request.

If you decide to request that such a review is undertaken and following this process you are still unsatisfied, you then have the right to direct your complaint to the Information Commissioner for consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary